

REMARKS

The claims in the application are 1-10 and Claims 11-19 added by the present amendment.

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 have been explicitly amended to correct minor informalities, raised in paragraph 1 of the Office Action, with Claim 11 added in this regard. Claims 12-19 added herein find clear support throughout the present applications and drawings.

Accordingly, the only outstanding issue is the art rejection of the claims. More particularly, Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,082,389 to Balemi in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. However, it is respectfully submitted the present invention as recited in all pending claims herein is patentable over the art, for the following reasons (reference will be made to preferred embodiments of the present invention illustrated in the drawings of the present application).

With regard to the rejection of independent Claim 1, the Examiner states that Balemi teaches all the elements of Claim 1, including a boom-connecting quick-change component 1 and a bushing 7 in the form of a half-liner having a support angle. However, it is respectfully pointed out that contrary to this assertion, the present invention is directed to the quick-change attachment to connect a tool wherein a bushing 16, in the form of a half-liner having a support angle α , is inserted within the bearing 14. One of the goals of the

present invention is the bushing 16 is a replaceable element which is easy to remove and replace within a short time period on the construction site (page 2, paragraph 3 of the application and e.g., Claim 2). Bushing 16 is separately fixed within a bushing support region of bearing 14, whereby this attachment may be implemented by an adhesive-bonding joint, shrink joint, welded joint and/or screw connection (page 4, paragraph 3 of the application and Claim 3). In contrast to Claim 1, Balemi discloses C-shaped transverse end plate 7 (column 1, lines 59-64) which is not actually a separate bushing formed of wear-resistant material as bushing 16 recited in Claim 1. FIGs. 1 and 2 of Balemi show cross-sectional views; there is no explicit disclosure that end plate 7 is detachable and removable from plate 3.

In other words, the bushing 16 of the present invention is separately inserted within the bushing support region of bearing 14 and a replaceable element which is easy to remove and replace. Nowhere in Balemi is it taught or disclosed that a bushing 16 in the form of a half-liner having a support angle α is inserted within the bearing 14 as recited in Claim 1. By the same token, Balemi fails to teach or suggest the invention as recited in any of the dependent claims.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the anticipatory rejection of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been rendered moot. The remaining art of record has not been applied against any claims and will not be commented upon further at this time.

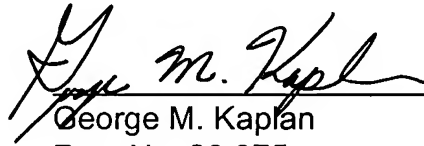
Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendment and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted all pending claims herein are in condition for

allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's attorney at the number indicated below. A petition for an automatic one month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) is enclosed in triplicate together with the requisite petition fee.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George M. Kaplan", is written over a horizontal line.

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